

**A DURABLY HYDROPHILIC, NON-LEACHING COATING FOR  
HYDROPHOBIC SUBSTANCES**

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**ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION**

10 The present invention is directed to a durably  
hydrophilic, non-leaching coating. A carbohydrate-salt mixture is  
formed by at least partially dissolving a water insoluble  
carbohydrate in an aqueous salt solution to form a carbohydrate-  
salt complex. The carbohydrate-salt mixture is applied to a  
substrate, and the substrate is rinsed with a solvent to form a  
coating. The present invention is further directed to a substrate  
15 coated with the coating of the present invention and absorbent  
structures comprising the coated substrate.

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